

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 18367/9547	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 00/ 00841	International filing date (day/month/year) 13/01/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/01/1999
Applicant BRIGGS & STRATTON CORPORATION et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of **3** sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

contained in the international application in written form.

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. Unity of Invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

as suggested by the applicant.

because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1

None of the figures.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

A four - stroke internal combustion engine is (20) provided. There is provided within an engine housing (28) an oil reservoir (126) and a valve chamber (156) which independently communicate with a crank chamber (124). A strategically placed divider (116) and passageway, located within the engine housing (28), appropriately direct lubricant within the engine housing (28) so that the internal cavity of the engine is lubricated during use in various operating attitudes, and so that the fluid flows to and is held in the proper chambers of the engine housing during storage. There is also provided a breather arrangement for an internal combustion engine (20) which includes a cam shaft (98) having a hollow passageway in communication with the crank chamber (124) and the air intake system of the engine. There is also provided an engine housing which can be utilized for engines having different horse power ratings. There is also provided a crankshaft bearing assembly (68,70) which prevents damage to the bearing upon insertion of the crankshaft (80) into the crank chamber (124).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

T/US 00/00841

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 F02B63/02 F01M11/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 F02B F01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 779 412 A (HONDA MOTOR CO LTD) 18 June 1997 (1997-06-18) figure 1 abstract figures 18,19 page 8, line 4 - line 37 ---	1-40
A	WO 99 02824 A (RYOBI NORTH AMERICA INC) 21 January 1999 (1999-01-21) figure 1 abstract claims 1-19 ---	1,39,40
A	US 1 878 224 A (PACKARD) 20 September 1932 (1932-09-20) figures 1-3 page 1, line 61 - line 104 ---	1 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

Date of mailing of the International search report

13 April 2000

20/04/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Wassenaar, G

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

T/US 00/00841

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 41 42 875 A (RYOBI LTD) 2 July 1992 (1992-07-02) figures 2,3 abstract column 8, line 9 - line 32 -----	1-5, 39, 40

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/00841

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0779412	A	18-06-1997	JP 9170417 A JP 9170418 A JP 9170420 A JP 9177528 A CN 1157877 A US 5947075 A		30-06-1997 30-06-1997 30-06-1997 08-07-1997 27-08-1997 07-09-1999
WO 9902824	A	21-01-1999	AU 3721197 A		08-02-1999
US 1878224	A	20-09-1932	NONE		
DE 4142875	A	02-07-1992	US 5243937 A		14-09-1993